

Information Services Board State Interoperability Executive Committee Update

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Description

ISB staff will update the Board on the activities of the ISB Committee on the State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC)

Committee Membership

Lowell Porter (Chair),
Chief, Washington State Patrol
James M. Broman (Vice-Chair)
Fire Chief, City of Lacey,
President Washington State Fire
Chiefs Association
Timothy Lowenberg, Major
General and Director of the
Washington Military Department
Mary Corso, Washington State
Fire Marshal

Glen Woodbury, Director,
Washington Emergency
Management Division
Alan Komenski, Association of
Washington Cities
The Honorable Mike Doherty,
Washington Association of
Counties
Ken Irwin, Sheriff, Washington
Association of Sheriffs and Police
Chiefs
Rob Sofie, Chief of Police,
Association of Washington
Association of Sheriffs and Police
Chiefs

Stuart McKee, Director,
Washington State Department of
Information Services
Mark Kahley, Washington
Department of Natural Resources
John Conrad, Assistant
Secretary, Washington State
Department of Transportation
Tom Griffith, Director, Clark
County Regional Emergency
Services Agency

Current Initiatives

1. Interim Statewide Public Safety Communications System Plan:

The SIEC was tasked with creating an Interim Plan for statewide public safety communications and to deliver that plan to the legislature by March 31, 2004. The plan was presented to the SIEC during their March 30th meeting and was approved on that date. Thereafter, on March 31, the Interim Plan was delivered to the Legislature. Subsequent to that, the plan was placed on the SIEC Website and professionally printed copies were sent to the Legislature.

The Interim Plan was designed to address important findings from the state agency inventory and provides a roadmap for the next 24 months to mitigate barriers that hamper interoperability. Recommendations contained in the Plan focused primarily on ways agencies can coordinate and collaborate to stretch limited resources and create economies and synergies wherever possible (The complete Interim Plan can be found on the SIEC Website, <http://isb.wa.gov/siec>.)

As a direct result of the Interim Plan being accepted by the SIEC, two additional work groups were created:

- The Technical/Frequency Management work group has met and is currently completing work on a charter. It is anticipated that this group will be tasked with several major objectives identified in the Interim Plan
- The SIEC Enterprise Funding Work Group was formed. However, it will not meet until there are identified goals that will require a funding strategy.

2. Interoperability Plan as part of a larger plan created by the Regional Planning Committee: When the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) introduced the concept of State Interoperability Executive Committees they envisioned that each state would manage and administer both interoperability channels and state frequencies within the 700 MHz spectrum. The FCC specifically tasked SIECs with writing a plan for the administration of interoperability and the state spectrum within the 700 MHz frequencies. This plan would be included in a much larger plan created by other potential licensees in the 700 MHz spectrum. The SIEC did approve a state plan pursuant to the FCC requirements.

3. Funding on behalf of the SIEC from the Department of Homeland Security: In December the Department of Information Services (DIS) submitted a grant application to the Department of the Military to obtain funding for conducting a statewide (local government) inventory of public safety radio systems and for developing a statewide interoperability plan. A grant application was submitted for \$2.38M.

DIS received a grant in the amount of \$850,000. A Statement of Work has been sent to the Department of the Military for their approval. It is anticipated that a RFP could be released as soon as May 3rd.

4. SIEC's Role in *The Washington Statewide Homeland Security Strategic Plan*: The State of Washington Military Department recently completed the Statewide Homeland Security Strategic Plan and names the SIEC as co-lead with DIS in operations dealing with radio communications and interoperability. The full text of this report can be found at <http://emd.wa.gov>, under the Homeland Security button.

The SIEC/DIS tasks are as follows:

- Define statewide interoperability standards and inventory statewide systems
- Resolve interoperability gaps, including both voice and data capability
- Establish a homeland security communications plan for both secure and non-secure means to communicate internally and externally with local, state, and federal partners.

5. Spectrum Coalition membership for the SIEC:

The Spectrum Coalition for Public Safety is a national coalition of cities, states, and public safety associations organized to secure additional spectrum in the 700 MHz range in order to support critical public safety wireless applications. The Coalition's membership is growing rapidly.

6. Technology Clearinghouse:

By directive of the SIEC, a Technology Clearinghouse was created. The purpose of this Clearinghouse is to invite vendors to demonstrate new technologies in a location where interested parties would be able to gather without any promise to purchase. This provides all levels of government to see the latest technology, with hopes of eliminating a gap between city and state knowledge base.

Next Meeting:

The next scheduled SIEC Meeting is June 9, 2004 at 1:30. SIEC Meetings are conducted in the DIS Boardroom, located in the James R. Larson Forum Building.

- The SIEC has a Working Group, the SIEC Advisory Work (SAW) Group. This group meets every-other week on Wednesdays. By charter the SAW Group created an additional two work groups.
- The Technology and Frequency Coordination Work Group started its work in April, upon the presentation of the Interim Report to the Legislature. This group generally meets every other week before the SAW Group.
- The SIEC Enterprise Funding Work Group was created to assist with possible funding alternatives for the SIEC. This group will begin meeting in the June timeframe.

URL for Committee Web Site:

[HTTP://ISB.WA.GOV/SIEC](http://ISB.WA.GOV/SIEC) or [HTTP://SIEC.WA.GOV](http://SIEC.WA.GOV)

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